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Free Class on the Archaeology of Utah

How long have humans lived in Utah? When did people start farming and growing corn? Why did the Anasazi abandon their homes in southern Utah? What can be learned from the study of ancient skeletons or pottery or broken stone tools? Why are archaeological resources important?

These are just some of the questions to be explored in a free one-day class to be held on Saturday, November 15 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Rio Grande Depot (300 S. Rio Grande Street, Salt Lake City, Utah). This class on the archaeology of Utah will introduce the concept of archaeology and the prehistoric cultures of the area. The class will also discuss some ongoing projects in the Salt Lake area and around the state of Utah.

For example, students will learn about the 1,000-year-old Fremont Indian village discovered during the early phases of TRAX construction in downtown Salt Lake City. They will also learn about Danger Cave and why this important archaeological site, excavated in the 1950s, is still providing scientists with important information about the past.

The class is free and open to the public. Young people in fourth grade and up may attend if accompanied by an adult. However, space is limited. Participants must pre-register by sending an e-mail to rrood@utah.gov with "November Class" in the subject line, or by calling Assistant State Archaeologist Ron Rood at 801/533-3564.

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